

**From:** Trumble, Luke (EGLE)  
**Sent:** 11/4/2022 7:52:56 PM  
**To:** "Burkman, Tim" <tburkman@grand-rapids.mi.us>; "Staal, Michael" <mstaal@grand-rapids.mi.us>; "Steve Heacock" <steve@grandrapidswhitewater.org>  
**Cc:** "Sanders, Jerrod (EGLE)" <SANDERSJ3@michigan.gov>; "Lounds, Amy (EGLE)" <LOUNDSA@michigan.gov>; "Saldivia, Luis (EGLE)" <SALDIVIAL@michigan.gov>; "Kirk, Audrie (EGLE)" <KirkA3@michigan.gov>; "Brown, Cory (EGLE)" <BrownC61@michigan.gov>; "Occhipinti, Matthew (EGLE)" <OCCHIPINTIM@michigan.gov>  
**Subject:** Grand River - Grand Rapids, HNV-A018-7X9N3  
**Attachments:** Public Comments\_Remaining Concerns HNV-A018-7X9N3.pdf, GRWW RCPP Public Comments (For Public Notice).pdf, GRWW RCPP Public Comments (For Public Hearing).pdf

Good evening, all:

Submission No. HNV-A018-7X9N3  
County: Kent  
Site Name: Grand River-Grand Rapids  
Project Name: RCPP Reach

Per the request of Jerrod Sanders, Assistant Director, EGLE-WRD, please find the attached letter outlining remaining permitting concerns related to the subject project. Please also find the attached compiled comments received during the public comment period and following the public hearing for the application.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,  
Luke Trumble

Lucas A. Trumble, P.E., Supervisor  
Dam Safety Unit  
Water Resources Division, EGLE  
517-420-8923  
[trumblel@michigan.gov](mailto:trumblel@michigan.gov)

ATTACHMENT NAME:

Public Comments\_Remaining Concerns HNV-A018-7X9N3.pdf

ATTACHMENT TYPE:

Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) compound image



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
LANSING



LIESL EICHLER CLARK  
DIRECTOR

November 4, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Tim Burkman, City Engineer  
City of Grand Rapids  
300 Monroe Avenue NW  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

Dear Tim Burkman:

SUBJECT: Submission No. HNV-A018-7X9N3  
County: Kent  
Site Name: Grand River-Grand Rapids  
Project Name: RCPP Reach

This letter is regarding the joint permit application (HNV-A018-7X9N3) submitted by the City of Grand Rapids (City) to the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Water Resources Division (WRD). The proposed project would remove four existing concrete low head dams and install four grouted boulder and cobble recreation/grade control structures in the Grand River in downtown Grand Rapids, between I-196 and Fulton Street. The permit application was determined to be administratively complete on August 22, 2022, and placed on public notice between September 15, and October 5, 2022. A public hearing was held virtually on September 29, 2022.

WRD is providing the enclosed lists of public comments received during the public notice period and following the public hearing. WRD is also providing the following list of significant issues with the subject project. We understand that there may be lingering disagreement on some of these issues, however, we are committed to further discussions on these items. The issues are summarized below by topic, with supporting information.

1. Project Purpose Definition

- a. As stated in the permit application, the project purpose defined as follows:

*"The purpose of our project is to improve the lower reach of the Grand River in Grand Rapids, Michigan by:*

- Reducing public safety hazards generated by low-head dams,*
- Creating diverse riffles, runs, waves, and pools to restore aquatic riverine habitat and diversity,*
- Improving fish passage*
- Recapturing the sight, sound, and spirit of the historic and iconic grand rapids, for which the city is named, and*
- Enhancing distinctive recreational opportunities such as wading, angling, and whitewater paddling sports, that are safe, interesting, and substantial enough to engage residents, attract tourists and serve as a catalyst for local, regional, and equitable economic development opportunities."*

- b. The project purpose cannot be defined in such a manner that is so narrow that it would pre-determine a preferred alternative or eliminate feasible and prudent alternatives from consideration.
- c. EGLE recognizes that the previous project purpose was modified to avoid specific attributes of the desired whitewater structures. However, the last bullet in the project purpose above could still be interpreted to limit it such that the applicant's preferred alternative is the only viable alternative and could eliminate several less impactful alternatives from consideration. As noted above, that cannot be the case.

2. Feasible and Prudent Alternatives Analysis

- a. Consistent with Item #1 above, state law requires that projects meant to meet an appropriately defined project purpose must be specifically designed to first avoid, then minimize, and finally mitigate for any unavoidable negative impacts to aquatic resources. These include impacts to fish passage, threatened and endangered species, stream function, flooding, and sea lamprey control as well as cumulative impacts associated with planned projects.
- b. To issue a permit, EGLE must consider whether the proposed project has alternatives that can enhance desired uses but would cause less negative impact to aquatic resources.
- c. Feasible and prudent alternatives considered should include size, location, magnitude, configuration, and number of impacted areas.
- d. Temporary to mid-term impacts associated with construction, as well as long-term impacts associated with project implementation must be avoided and minimized (i.e., the same impact avoidance standards apply to temporary and permanent impacts).
- e. Grouted structures will require ongoing maintenance in perpetuity. It is anticipated that maintenance of these grouted structures will result in additional future impacts to aquatic resources. The selected alternative should reduce the frequency of required maintenance and avoid additional impacts associated with these maintenance activities.

3. Human Health and Safety

- a. The Grand River has ongoing concerns with water quality, and risks to human health and safety related to water quality, as well as channel velocities, need to be avoided and minimized.

4. Part 31/FEMA NFIP Coordination – LOMR/CLOMR Application

- a. A CLOMR application has been submitted to FEMA and is currently under review. A permit from EGLE will not be issued until FEMA issues a CLOMR for the proposed project.
- b. Once a CLOMR is issued, it will need to be demonstrated that the proposed project permitting criteria of Part 31, Water Resources Protection, of the NREPA.

5. PFAS/NPDES Permitting

- a. It was communicated in a second correction request letter from EGLE, dated February 9, 2021, that PFAS exists in sediment within the project area in low concentrations. Concern was expressed that dewatering/storm water discharges could concentrate PFAS at a single discharge point, potentially increasing



November 4, 2022

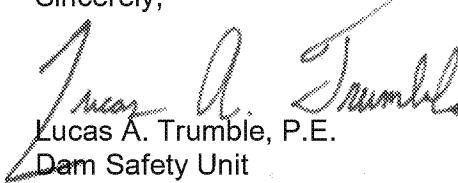
ecological and human exposure and risk. As such, NPDES permitting may be required for dewatering and storm water discharges.

6. USEPA/USACE/USFWS Red File Review

- a. A copy of the permit application and public notice was provided to USEPA, USACE, and USFWS consistent with the memorandum of agreement between EGLE and USEPA as part of the State of Michigan's assumption of the Section 404 CWA programs. EGLE cannot make a final permit decision until comments from these federal agencies are received. EGLE cannot issue a permit if conditions or objections from these federal agencies are not resolved.

We anticipate future meetings between the City and EGLE for further discussion related to development of paths forward on these issues and response to public comments received. If you have any questions regarding this letter or your application, please contact me at 517-420-8923 or [TrumbleL@Michigan.gov](mailto:TrumbleL@Michigan.gov).

Sincerely,



Lucas A. Trumble, P.E.  
Dam Safety Unit  
Water Resources Division

cc: Michael Staal, P.E., City of Grand Rapids  
Jerrod Sanders, EGLE  
Amy Lounds, EGLE  
Luis Saldivia, P.E., EGLE  
Audrie Kirk, EGLE  
Cory Brown, EGLE  
Matt Occhipinti, P.E., EGLE

ATTACHMENT NAME:

GRWW RCPP Public Comments (For Public Notice).pdf

ATTACHMENT TYPE:

Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) compound image

## Public Notice Comments List

Submission Reference Number: **HNV-A018-7X9N3**

Public Notice Type: Public Notice - Application

Public Notice Duration (From): 09/15/2022 (To): 10/05/2022

Number of Public Comments received: **32**

<b>Comment Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Has attachments? (If Yes, list the names)</b>
10/08/2022	Comments within an attached file towards the denial of this project.	No
10/05/2022		GLFC Grand Rapids EGLE Lower Reach Comments.pdf
10/05/2022	I am writing in support of the Grand Rapids White Water project. If anything, this will strengthen marketing strategy as there will be physical features that align with the city name. This feature could increase tourism and sightseeing in the city, furthering the economy for the benefit of everybody living and working in the area.	No
10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents</p>	No

	<p>have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p>	No

	<p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/04/2022	<p>Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering these important benefits.</p> <p>The project will positively impact members of the Grand Rapids community and beyond. The project creates outdoor water recreation opportunities for community members who might otherwise not have easy access to recreational water. Accessible by foot, bike, bus and car, the project will create the closest and most accessible water recreation for Grand Rapids' most diverse neighborhoods. This allows our residents to learn about the ecosystem, about the history of the River and the environment, and explore other opportunities. Additionally, this project is expected to increase visitation to and around the Grand River, present new business development opportunities and support existing businesses along and near the river. These opportunities will result in an annual increase of \$19-\$26 million for our local economy. Beyond this increase, is the economic development that will occur through the construction and other development phases of the project, as well as other riverfront developments that will occur as a result of the newly accessible river.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

	development, and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
10/04/2022	I fully support this project as a downtown resident.	No
10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration!</p>	No
10/04/2022	The extensive work to date and preferred design submitted by the City of Grand Rapids with the project partner in the Grand Rapids Whitewater organization establishes a safe, interesting and	No

	<p>appealing destination attraction to the section of Grand River running directly through downtown Grand Rapids.</p> <p>The plan follows governmental guidelines for safety and provides access to the river for swimming, boating, fishing and any number of paddle sports through a wave structure that allows for predictable and accessible waves covering small portions of the river. This preferred design blends public safety and restoration of the river's natural beauty and sound.</p> <p>The economic impact study completed by Anderson Economic Group speaks to the positive impact it will have on our city, region and state: up to 500,000 visitors per year, \$15-19 million in annual economic spending, and 80-100 new jobs. Our ability to help produce greater tourism, access and impact through this natural resource with the anticipated economic impact is wholly dependent on the inclusion of the safe and interesting engineered waves provided in the preferred plan.</p> <p>The West Michigan Sports Commission strongly endorses this project and request for permitting.</p>	
10/04/2022	I support the project to restore the rapids. It will be great for downtown Grand Rapids	No
09/30/2022		BHSH System Support Letter for Grand River Waterway Project 9.30.22.pdf
09/29/2022		Fdtn River Support.pdf
09/29/2022		22.09.29-GrandRapidsWhiteWaterLtr.pdf
09/29/2022	I live in the Riverhouse Condos and I am in support of this project.	No
09/28/2022	<p>The Grand River is very important to Grand Rapidsians - beginning with the indigenous people. It was their life source, then became the backbone of industry as our community grew. But, we changed the river and robbed it of its rapids and natural beauty. It is very appropriate that the Grand River restoration process in Grand Rapids promises to return much of that historic asset so that we can enjoy the waterway once again. It will not only mean a lot as a recreational asset - but, I feel, morally, it is the right thing to do. I very much look forward to kayaking on the river, among many activities, but most importantly, I am excited to see what the river was meant to be. Please, please...support this project in any way that you can!</p>	No

09/28/2022	See uploaded file for Whitewater support letter	white water Jandernoa.pdf
09/28/2022	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am in full support of the Grand Rapids white water project. I believe it will bring to the city greater recreational use of our river, beauty, improved fisheries and tremendous economic development.</p>	No
09/28/2022		GRPM Support.pdf
09/27/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access, and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering these important benefits.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the river's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</li> <li>2. The project creates outdoor water recreation opportunities for people who might otherwise not have easy access to recreational water. Accessible by foot, bike, bus, and car, the project will create the closest and most accessible water recreation for Grand Rapids' most diverse neighborhoods.</li> <li>3. The project will increase fish passage potential for migratory and small-bodied fish species, including mussel host species, once the low-head dams are demolished and the flow diversity is enhanced with the addition of natural rock and boulders back into the river.</li> </ol> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational, and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
09/27/2022	Please see the attached letter. Thank you!	Mike Jandernoa - letter re Grand River project.pdf
09/27/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,	No



	<p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering important benefits</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development, and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
09/27/2022		Frey.pdf
09/27/2022	Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create numerous environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development, and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. I would appreciate your support of this permit application as I believe the Whitewater project will be transformed for our downtown...both in terms of engaging residents and visitors with the excellent natural asset, but also encouraging new construction and development along the river resulting in economic prosperity.	No
09/27/2022		GR-WhiteWater-EGLE-Letter 2022.09.27.pdf
09/26/2022	As an original member of Mayor Rosalynn Bliss' Grand River Restoration Steering Committee, a lifelong Grand Rapidian and a downtown Grand Rapids business leader, I am writing in support of the Grand Rapids WhiteWater project. This is a transformative project that embodies a community-wide commitment to authentic, inclusive and intentional engagement to ensure that this truly is a river for ALL. The opportunity to activate the river, honor its history, provide economic development opportunities and significantly enhance the river's ecosystem all contribute to why this project is deserving of EGLE's approval.	No
09/25/2022	After watching this grassroots effort to restore the Grand Rapids through downtown Grand Rapids for more than a decade now, we are fully in support of the current plan. Adding recreation while restoring the environment that is the city's name sake isn't only a good idea, it's imperative. The river has been neglected since being first converted into an industrial tool, like so many other natural resources. However, this partnership and this project have the potential to reclaim the health, safety and utility of this living stream, while creating new sources of economic potential for downtown GR and West	No

	<p>Michigan in general. When respect is restored to our natural resources, native species and history, new respect for community will also have a better chance of developing. Project like this will help retain our downtown population and encourage more people to move downtown. This is really about renewing our relationship with nature, improving the habitat of the river and the community that surrounds it, and giving people a chance to understand the value of both. While some will view this as a plan to do away with their favorite fishing location or to monetize the river for selfish reasons once again, it won't. It will improve the fishing while removing obstacles that prevent the native fish from swimming to their historic breeding grounds. It will also improve safety by removing the drowning machine low head dams that currently span the river in multiple places. With more wholesome activities in and around the water, the amount of littering, vandalism and destruction of property on the shore will be greatly reduced, providing a safer place to walk and play. Finally, if nothing is done... the river corridor will continue to deteriorate along with the existing dams that are likely on the brink of collapsing from old age. Lets pass this initiative now, to help restore the river and downtown area to it's previous glory.</p>	
09/22/2022	Please see attached letter in full support of the Grand River-Grand Rapids project (HNV-A018-7X9N3) as described in the permit application submitted by the City of Grand Rapids.	EGLE_LetterofSupport_ECT_09.22.22.pdf
09/22/2022	I fully support this project .... it brings the river back to its original form, helps the environment and will be an amenity of the region for all of its residents to enjoy!	No
09/22/2022	As a board member of John Ball Zoo for over 15 years and just having served a four year term as Board President, I am equally concerned about conservation, wildlife and sustainability as I am the economic impact of this project. Please see the attached letter detailing my support for this project.	GRWW Support.docx
09/22/2022	<p>The Grand Rapids Chamber supports Project Grand River – Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) and urges the department to approve the permit for the project. Approving the permit will create many benefits for the region and State of Michigan that support our economic growth and tourism goals.</p> <p>The City of Grand Rapids has used an inclusive process for this project to engage and hear the voices of the diverse community. As a region, we believe this project is a catalyst for more engagement with the river, aquatic life, natural beauty it will provide and result in significant additional investment in the Grand River Corridor.</p> <p>We appreciate having EGLE as a partner throughout the process that has spanned numerous years. We look forward to continuing that partnership. We and anxious to receive your approval of this permit. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No

09/22/2022		Project Grand River Letter of Support.pdf
09/21/2022	The Grand Rapids Whitewater project is a game-changing development that will have positive ramifications for generations to come in Grand Rapids and surrounding communities. The project will bring life to the urban core, revitalize the habitat of the Grand River and provide new recreational opportunities that will create economic development in the city. I wholeheartedly support this project and look forward to its completion.	No

ATTACHMENT NAME:

GRWW RCPP Public Comments (For Public Hearing).pdf

ATTACHMENT TYPE:

Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) compound image

## Public Notice Comments List

Submission Reference Number: **HNV-A018-7X9N3**

Public Notice Type: Public Hearing

Public Notice Duration (From): 09/16/2022 (To): 10/10/2022

Number of Public Comments received: **411**

Comment Date	Comments	Has attachments? (If Yes, list the names)
	<b>COMMENTS RECEIVED VIA EMAIL</b>	
10/6 to 10/11/2022	<p>I urge your team to approve the City of Grand Rapids' permitting request to begin the Grand River Revitalization project construction, and enable the City to move forward with plans to improve resident access to the Grand River in Grand Rapids, MI.</p> <p>The proposal to amend the ½ mile lower reach stretch of the Grand River to a more welcoming and vibrant state is part of a larger, regional, watershed-wide vision that will lead to a healthier waterway that is more accessible to surrounding communities for recreation, fishing, and more.</p> <p>Vibrant communities require equitable access to a healthy surrounding environment and watersheds, and recreational opportunities for everyone. Not only will the Grand River Revitalization Initiative bring more vitality to the Grand River watershed, but it will connect people directly to the river, and will provide social, cultural, and economic opportunities for everyone to enjoy for years to come.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>	No  Note: 57 emails were received containing these comments.
10/11/2022	I was recently watching the recording of the public hearing about the Grand Rapids Whitewater project that occurred the other week. A question occurred to me - do you know if anyone has thought about	No

	<p>possible changes to the wintertime ice regime on the river in this reach? Specifically, if these changes would make ice jams more or less likely?</p> <p>Obviously the low head dams right now lead to destruction of any ice sheets that do try to make it down the river from Comstock Park, but that will no longer be the case. Depending on the exact configuration of the 1 remaining dam (the one that will include the adjustable barrier for the sea lamprey) this may still lead to the destruction of any ice sheets, but maybe not? Similarly, if we're adding rapids to the river, during times of extreme cold the aeration may lead to additional frazil ice production that will go downriver, and could lead to changes in the ice regime of downstream locations. Downstream communities in Ottawa County already have a bad history with ice jams on the Grand River, and I'd hate to make that worse unintentionally.</p> <p>I don't THINK the proposed changes to the river will make a huge difference in most winters, but I'm curious if anyone has considered this at all? I only heard about open-water flooding in the meeting, with no mentions of wintertime/ice anywhere (unless I missed it).</p> <p>Thanks for the careful review you all are giving this - it's reassuring to know quality folks like yourself are going to be looking at all aspects of this before it moves forward.</p>	
10/9/2022	<p>Hi, Luke. I hope all is well. I'm sorry to bother you, but I wanted to confirm that I successfully uploaded the attached letter. I followed the instructions on the web site, including selecting the "submit" option but I haven't received any verification that it was successfully uploaded. Is there something else I should do?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	Wege Fdn Letter in Support of EGLE permit application 2022-10-09.pdf

10/8/2022	I have the attached comments in regards to the Grand Rapids proposal. I've been trying to submit them on Miwaters, but am having difficulty. Attached are my comments.	Comments.rtf
10/7/2022	<p>Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy  Comment on proposal to restore the rapids to the Grand River in Downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan</p> <p>Dear Sir or Madam</p> <p>I object to the proposal to restore the Grand River rapids between Bridge Street and Fulton Street in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I see no benefits to disrupting a public resource that has been functioning in a very citizen friendly and reliable manner for 50 or 100 years. Any changes would be disruptive to upstream homes, parks, businesses and historical recreation activities. The greatest benefit is for a small number of kayakers who wish to travel unimpeded down the river in a more exciting manner. There will undoubtedly be significant usage in the first year or two, but that will quickly die down to a small number of such users. And those who boat on the river upstream from the Sixth Street bridge will have their historical uses permanently destroyed. Fish and wildlife along the river will be permanently disrupted.</p> <p>It is foolish to consider any proposal that does not commit to a Lamprey barrier and proof of effectiveness. No favorable recommendation should be given based on a vague promise to contain the Lamprey. It may be possible to grant conditional approval subject to submitting a proposal, but any proposal would undoubtedly include a significant increase in proposed cost that will be passed on to the taxpayers.</p> <p>I note with interest that the October 2 Grand Rapids Press article highlights a quote from Steve Heacock where he says "The removal of the dams allows people in the river. today, it's not safe to get in the river and people know that so they don't get in. So, it's very, very quiet." This is from the director of the promotional group. His unsubstantiated statements make no sense. There is no basis for stating that the "restored" riverbed will be any safer after the changes. If you recommend proceeding, then I recommend that you get a record of loss of life from installation of the present dams up to the point of "restoration" and then give a yearly report of loss of life for the subsequent 25 years.</p>	No

	<p>Who is going to maintain and clean the river? Much debris will accumulate at many places in the river and will create many obstructions and dams that will cause temporary flooding. I recommend you research the history of the current set of dams. What was the problem prompting installation of the dams? Have those problems been addressed? How will the proposed "restoration" deal with those historical problems or will those problems be reinstituted? Will the river be more prone to ice jams and flooding after its reconfiguration.</p> <p>This is a bad proposal and EGLE should refuse to approve.</p>	
	<b>COMMENTS RECEIVED VIA MIWATERS</b>	
10/10/2022	<p>Everyone has been referencing the sturgeon comeback to the Grand River, but this is happening with the coffer installed, I have seen no evidence supporting the proliferation of sturgeon with the coffer removed. I am very concerned about how this will affect the migratory fish species, as that is a major draw for people fishing, watching the fish ladder, and enjoying the benefits that these fish bring to the surrounding tributaries. I am concerned on how the increase in "high water events" will be handled with the removal of these coffer, as you can see in the attached excel sheet, there is an upward trend of "high water events" over the past 30 years, how will the removal of the coffer decrease the amount of flooding the city sees? I hear a lot about the economic benefits from people, but nothing about how completely restructuring a fish passage superhighway will affect these fish. I am also very concerned about the lamprey issue, I realize that if these coffer are removed, the 6th street dam is surely next up, and I have seen no solid plan that will allow spring run steelhead upriver to spawn, and not allow the lampreys upriver (they both spawn in the spring). Jay Wesley from the DNR has said that if lamprey are allowed to reach the good spawning grounds upriver, this will cause a serious additional cost to the DNR per year to kill this invasive species (has this cost been accounted for?). Please listen to the DNR, take their advice, this river is not just for the citizens of Grand Rapids, but for many different species of fish that live and traverse its waters, and going and stirring up something that has been in place for nearly 100 years in the name of "restoration", puts nature at a serious risk.</p>	Grand River highs and lows.xlsx
10/10/2022	<p>Attached are documents showing bedrock surface to illustrate that submitted plans with bedrock elevations were not done so in good faith, in some instances off by 10 feet. Also attached is an excerpt from the historical document Baxter, 1895 with descriptions of how the river was. The river did not contain concrete shoots, concrete grout (which is call out for all structures), and riffles that do not have any quantitative value for their construction in relation to grain size, outside of using grout to hold them together.</p>	Pearl Street GEOLOGY over Grand River.pdfWhitewater_6 thst_Dam.tifCores - Bridge Street.tif1965 Drawing from 1837



	<p>Also of note, the last structure is created on the inside of a meander bend - not to mention no rapids exists below 100 ft upstream of Pearl St historically. This is usually where minimal velocities exists and will therefore push excessive velocities to the outside of the meander bend and cause excessive erosion and increased flood levels in that portion of the river.</p> <p>Each proposed structure is also more fill and higher than the current dams in place. It is impossible that slowing water down with the wedge shaped structures and increasing the height of the channel spanning structures by 1-2 ft doesn't minimally increase flood stage by 1-2 ft without any account for decreases in velocity and increases in roughness.</p> <p>The least impactful alternative must be seriously considered for a successful project. Removing the low head dams to the historic grade will reduce flood risk to the city and restore the river and it's assets back to a natural setting for federal and state listed mussels, sturgeon, and other sport fish that currently call these waters home. There is no basis for the current design, it is unstable and requires grouting material, it will raise flood levels, it still includes all the risks and dangers of the current dams, and would essentially add new dams in an area currently doesn't have them.</p> <p>The plans lack details as to size of materials, assurances of failure, and neglect in regard to the logical rise in flood flows when adding material to a closed canyon without a floodplain.</p>	<p>government survey.tifGrand Rapids_1868.jpgRiver_geology_pages from Whittemore_1895.pdf GR_Historic_to_Present_Annual_Mean_Flows_height to discharge ratio.pdf</p>
10/10/2022	See attached letter	GRWW_LOS_GVMC.pdf
10/10/2022	Please find comments attached.	HNV-A018-7X9N3 Comment from Downtown Grand Rapids.pdf
10/10/2022	Please use this version. The previous PDF submitted was missing final grammatical and language edits. Thanks!	LCV WMEAC Grand Rapids Whitewater Public Comment Final.pdf
10/10/2022		Kent County_Letter of Support_Grand Rapids Whitewater EGLE Permit 101022.pdf

10/10/2022	With about 200 miles of the Grand River upstream from Grand Rapids dead tree are continuing to fall over and float downstream in high water conditions. These trees are sometimes hung up on the 6th Street dam. As the river water rises due to heavy rains these trees move again downstream. With the plans to create waves through the positing boulders will there be a plan to remove such fallen trees from the river that are hung up on new man made features? I attached a picture of trees on the 6th street dam that was taken 09/24/22.	20220924_081703.jpg
10/10/2022		GR Permit Application .pdf
10/10/2022	At the present time boat anglers have full access to the Grand River so long as they have the ability to drive over the 4 existing coffer. If these coffer are removed and replaced with wave producing features along with riffles will there be any restrictions on the navigation of the Grand River for such anglers?	No
10/10/2022	I feel this would be a real positive thing for Grand Rapids and West Michigan. I've seen this done in Colorado and it has afforded the public a real recreation opportunity of limited white water rafting and kayaking. It would also allow the fish to better survive in the rive due to increased oxygenation of the water, ability to move further upstream and provide some fish with spawning grounds by removing dams. It would improve the esthetics of the river and make it look more natural again. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.	No
10/10/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p>	No

	<p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/10/2022	This would be a wonderful addition to our city. Very excited to see it happen.	No
10/10/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access, and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering these important benefits.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the river's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</li> <li>2. The project creates outdoor water recreation opportunities for people who might otherwise not have easy access to recreational water. Accessible by foot, bike, bus, and car, the project will create the closest and most accessible water recreation for Grand Rapids' most diverse neighborhoods.</li> <li>3. The project will increase fish passage potential for migratory and small-bodied fish species, including mussel host species, once the low-head dams are demolished and the flow diversity is enhanced with the addition of natural rock and boulders back into the river.</li> </ol>	No

	Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational, and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
10/10/2022	Please see attached letter.	Mayor Endorsement of Grand River Permit 2022 09 21.pdf
10/10/2022	This project is one of the best ideas for Grand Rapids since the start of the Amway Hotel. It will make the city more attractive by far and draw even more people to the city. I myself had this thought way back in the 70's and very excited to see it come to fruition. This group of people that are working on this should be commend and supported by the whole County.....	No
10/10/2022	This dam should be take down. What is the hold up??? This dam has done nothing but hurt the grand river . The water behind the dam is slack and stinks. Bring the river back to its natural state !!!! Why is government over site slowing this down.	No
10/09/2022	It would be wonderful to have the rapids working downtown again. I personally would love to have the opportunity to ride the rapids right here at home instead of having to travel to another state. It could be a money maker for Grand Rapids and another reason for people to travel here. My concerns are how is it being paid for, how much tax \$ will be used to make it happen, making sure the area is safe so folks don't fall in by accident, and flooding. If these concerns can be addressed I think it would be beneficial to Grand Rapids.	No
10/09/2022	No, leave the dam. Removing it would cause erosion and damage to homes along river.	No
10/09/2022		grww.pdf
10/09/2022	BOATS AND FISHERMAN DONT MIX. GR IS GOING TO LOSE A GOOD SOURCE OF INCOME WHEN THIS GOES DOWN. FISHERMAN BUY LICENSE,FOOD ,GAS,JUST TO GO FISHING BY THE LADDER. WE ALSO FISH ALL YEAR ROUND. I DONT THINK YOU WILL SEE MANY BOATS IN THE WINTER TIME USING THAT SPOT. LIKE MY DAD USE TO SAY. IF ITS NOT BROKE DONT MESS WITH IT. I WOULD PUT THE MONEY IN DOWN TOWN SECURITY BEFORE LETTING THE BOATS GO DOWN RIVER.	No
10/09/2022	The river could be a more amazing source of beauty; returning it to its natural state will draw more people downtown and would be a great step toward incorporating the river into the city-please make it more beautiful, it's a good plan.	No
10/09/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,	No

	<p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/09/2022	How beautiful would it be to restore the waters as it was when Grand Rapids was founded. Let us bring back white or founders Saul as this beautiful city was being built. I am part Native American and as such it would be beautiful to see the rapids as they were when some of my ancestors saw them many many years ago. Let's keep the "Rapids" in GRAND RAPIDS!	No
10/09/2022	BRING THE RAPIDS BACK!!!!!!	No
10/09/2022	I am in favor of restoring the rapids. It'll be more aesthetically pleasing to look at and better ecologically speaking, restoring it to what it would be naturally before human intervention.	No

10/09/2022		Wege Fdn Letter In Support of EGLE permit application 2022-10-09.pdf
10/09/2022	<p>At the core of healthy, vibrant communities lies equitable access to the surrounding environment, watersheds and recreational opportunities. To achieve this, we must work to protect and improve the health of our lakes, rivers and streams that provide such opportunities and ensure that all members of the community are able to access them.</p> <p>In collaboration with local, state, and federal government, and conservation partners, Grand Rapids Whitewater (GRWW) is working on a project – the Grand River Revitalization Initiative – aimed at improving recreational opportunities and access to the Grand River in downtown Grand Rapids, MI. Overall, the first phase of project construction proposes improvements to a 1/2-mile stretch of the Grand River - making it a more welcoming place, and ensuring a vibrant and accessible waterway.</p>	LCV WMEAC Grand Rapids Whitewater Public Comment.pdf
10/09/2022	Comments to urge denial of permit	No
10/09/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering these important benefits.</p> <p>This project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the river's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions. Further, this project has embedded equity and inclusion into all river revitalization efforts and provides significant educational opportunities for young people in the fields of math, science, engineering, environmental resources management, public health/policy and more. Through extensive public input, the city of Grand Rapids has ensured that this project will benefit not only our river, but all residents who want more recreational opportunities in the Grand River.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

	development, and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
10/09/2022	I think the restoration of the rapids would be great thing for our community!	No
10/09/2022	I support removal of the concrete dams and restoration of the rapids. I believe it will enhance the wildlife associated with the river and become a major attraction for visitors to Grand Rapids.	No
10/09/2022	I support this project	No
10/09/2022	I support the return of the Grand River as it runs through the city of Grand Rapids. While the dams, etc that were put in place during the earlier days of the city, it's time to return the river to it's original state.	No
10/09/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

	development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
10/09/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
10/09/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,	No



	<p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
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10/08/2022	Comments for the denial of permit proposal	No
10/08/2022	Comments in attached file for the denial of permit.	No
10/08/2022	Please accept the attached comments from 21 Grand Rapids residents in favor of the project	Project Grand River PC's 2022-6.pdf
10/08/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

	<p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/08/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7x9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for white water rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the city of Grand Rapids and surrounding region</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of construction in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents</p>	No

	<p>have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse effects are anticipated.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for project Grand River Grand Rapids will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits and will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and align with Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/08/2022	Leave the river as it is.	No
10/08/2022	The Grand River should be restored to Grand Rapids at the city that got its name from the rapids. Rivers should be allowed to take their natural form.	No
10/08/2022	I think this is a great project- would love to see the rapids returned to the river as quickly as possible. It would be great to encourage the sturgeon to return.	No
10/08/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p>	No

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10/07/2022	Please accept the attached comments from 81 Grand Rapids residents in favor of the project.	Project Grand River PC's 2022-4.pdf Project Grand River PC's 2022-5.pdf
10/07/2022	I hope you approve the permit for GR White Water. I believe creating a river area that promotes use and interaction will also promote more awareness. This will also cause people to take better care of it environmentally. This could have economic benefits as well as environmental ones. I fully support this project and hope you give it a chance by approving their permit.	No
10/07/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p>	No

	<p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/07/2022	I support the White Water Initiative. This program should greatly improve the rivers health.	No
10/07/2022	Please accept the attached comments from 102 Grand Rapids residents in favor of the project.	<p>Project Grand River PC's 2022-1.pdf</p> <p>Project Grand River PC's 2022-2.pdf</p> <p>Project Grand River PC's 2022-3.pdf</p>
10/07/2022	<p>We are proud of West Michigan's history of harnessing the collective impact of the regional business community to build a thriving, prosperous community for ALL. The Grand Rapids area has been executing an intentional strategy to create a place where people and businesses will thrive and it is no accident that this work has contributed to population and economic growth.</p> <p>We believe the Grand Rapids WhiteWater is the next transformational investment in our region that will further enhance vibrancy and continue to attract visitors, businesses, and residents. This project will improve access and activation of a long neglected natural asset, support tourism and, new business development opportunities as well as supporting existing business near the river.</p> <p>These opportunities are projected to contribute \$19-\$26 million for our local economy annually.</p> <p>In addition to economic benefits, the project was also designed to improve the existing natural state of the river and provide better habitat for aquatic life by augmenting what was stripped from the riverbed years ago. The project benefits will include diversified hydraulics, restored aquatic habitats, greater habitat diversity and increased suitable fish passage conditions. The project's features will be</p>	Business Letter for WhiteWater Project.pdf

	<p>constructed of stacked natural rocks and boulders and will replace some of the natural rock that was removed.</p> <p>The Grand Rapids Chamber and our partners strongly support the permit to move forward with the Grand River Project. We believe this project is catalytic, restorative and diverse, creating opportunities for more engagement with the river, increased natural beauty, and a restored connection to the city's namesake.</p> <p>We wholeheartedly endorse the approval of the permit to restore the rapids and welcome the investment in and along the Grand River. It is time to move forward with this project that has resulted from over a decade of planning and community engagement.</p>	
10/07/2022		EGLE Support Letter 10.07.22.docx
10/07/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions. 8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p>	No

	<p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams  2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions  Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions  Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/07/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.  8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities  The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams  2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions  Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions  Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No



	development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
10/07/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I have long felt that our community has not appreciated the value of the Grand River.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
10/07/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,	No

	<p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/07/2022	I am incredibly excited for the work that Grand Rapids Whitewater has proposed for restoration work in and along the Grand River through Grand Rapids. I look forward to seeing the fruits of their labor soon!	No
10/07/2022	Van Andel Arena, DeVos Place and DeVos Performance Hall, the ASM Global-managed venues in Grand Rapids, Michigan, strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). Please see attached for our letter of support.	ASM Global GR Whitewater Support Letter - EGLE.pdf
10/07/2022	I am requesting your approval the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). The project endeavors to enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem and will benefit the citizens of Michigan.	No

	<p>The project team has taken considerable time and effort in developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will enhance opportunities for nearby economic development. The project also aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways.</p> <p>Your review, consideration, and support of this project is most appreciated.</p>	
10/07/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>Having moved from Dayton, OH where they did a similar project I truly believe that approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
10/07/2022	I support this project.	No
10/06/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

	<p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</li> <li>- 8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</li> <li>- The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</li> <li>- 2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</li> <li>- Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</li> </ul> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration</p>	
10/06/2022		Grand River EGLE.docx
10/06/2022	<p>The Grand river; in Kent county and even as far inland as Ingham county, as well as other river in Michigan were once fast moving rapids from the springs to the Great Lakes. This has a more natural ability for the water to stay a healthy source of life for all that depend on it and opens it up for recreational use in cities like Grand Rapids and Lansing. There are areas were human activity has polluted And obstructed the river rapids. Rapids have a bubble creating flow, and younger rivers are not as wide as older bigger slower rivers seen other places. When the rapids is polluted And transformed flow rate , the reduced sediment movement (plus pollutants) in some parts of the widening slower river generate algae blooms and other effects to the food chain ecosystem and changes so apparent the rapids river could be mistaken for a pound or small lake at that crossing. Any efforts to repair these</p>	No

	<p>rivers rapids as State treasures will help many areas of people activity. Please keep the water healthy and drinkable by including plans for allowing rapids to follow a rapid course to the Great Lakes to maintain the foodchain river soil ecosystems unique to Michigan especially in Kent and Ingham Counties.</p>	
10/06/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
10/06/2022		<p>Letter of Support Project Grand River.pdf</p>

10/06/2022	I'd love to see this project completed. There are environmental, cultural, and economic benefits to the natural state of the river being restored. Let's get this done!	No
10/06/2022	As a Grand Rapids resident, I am very excited and supportive of the Grand Rapids whitewater project. This would be a very exciting addition to our community.	No
10/05/2022	It's exciting to know there is the possibility to return the rapids to Grand Rapids. It would be a positive move for the city and the state to have the rapids back. It offers recreational opportunities and beauty. I previously lived in Michigan and hope that this project is completed. I would love to see it on my next trip to Michigan.	No
10/05/2022	I support the efforts to return the Grand River to a more natural river. I am a whitewater kayaker and a fisherman. I would love to see the Grand open to more recreational use.	No
10/05/2022	I have always dreamed about action being taken to restored the rapids "owashtanong" back to its original origins as fellow ancestors before me have seen it ! I'm a member of Little river band of Ottawa Indians and historically descend from the 19 chiefs who occupied "owashtanong" I encourage swift action with this project !	No
10/05/2022	The rapids are a key part of our downtown community and the current suppression of them hurts our city's ecosystem and economy. The plan to restore the rapids is an excellent direction for Grand Rapids and it has my full support.	No
10/05/2022	As an avid outdoorsman, supporter of environmental conversation, and water sports enthusiast I could not support an organization more than Grand Rapids Whitewater in their effort to restore the rapids. Please take my comments as a vote of confidence that this project should continue to move forward and develop/restore the incredible natural resource that we have in our community; the Grand River. Regards, Adam Fox	No
10/05/2022	I am in support of the Grand River Revitalization. Bringing Grand Rapids back to its historic roots will create a safer and more inviting downtown area. The economic impacts will be very beneficial.	No
10/05/2022	The river revitalization product must happen. It would help local wildlife and bring back the rapids that the city is named for. It's time to restore the river and make Grand Rapids an interesting city again.	No
10/05/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,  I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.	No

	<p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
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10/05/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>As a property owner along the Grand River in downtown Grand Rapids, our property would be directly affected by this project. As such, we urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). This project which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special.</p>	No

	Thank you for your consideration.	
10/05/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>As a West Michigan business and property owner along the Grand River in downtown Grand Rapids, Amway would respectfully urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). This project which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This transformational project will help improve access to the river and and provide recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region. It is being designed to responsibly address ecological and environmental needs to protect our natural resources.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
10/05/2022	My favorite spot in GR is Riverside Park. It's right on the river and provides beautiful views of Grand Rapids. I know it would bring myself, and others who enjoy being close to the river, so much joy and peace knowing that it is clean and revitalized.	No
10/05/2022	None	No
10/05/2022	I fully support the Grand Rapids Whitewater Project. This will bring paddlers from around the country like it has in other cities.	No
10/05/2022		HNV-A018-7X9N3 - Highland Group - EGLE Letter 01.pdf
10/05/2022	I'm in full support of this project. Being a student here at GVSU, this would aid greatly in the revitalization downtown along with help improving the environment and habitat for local species.	No

10/05/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I support the project to restore the rapids in Grand Rapids.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
10/04/2022	I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access	No

	<p>and recreational opportunities. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering these important benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the river's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</li> <li>-The project has embedded equity and inclusion into all river revitalization efforts and provides significant educational opportunities for young people in the fields of math, science, engineering, environmental resources management, public health/policy and more.</li> <li>-The project footprint has been reduced to avoid impact to the riverbed and to not interfere with fish passage and other uses of the river. In fact, the project will enhance both by being beneficial to the public trust and the environment. The completed project will more closely emulate a natural rapid reach than the current river condition.</li> <li>-Through extensive coordination with the City of Grand Rapids and other regulatory agencies, a conservative model was developed that ultimately will not increase flood levels or put the flood protection system at risk.</li> <li>-The City and GRWW worked closely with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to ensure the project will not decrease effectiveness of the Sixth Street Dam as a sea lamprey barrier.</li> </ul> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development, and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each</p>	No

	<p>constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
10/04/2022	This will be a fantastic opportunity for all of us. We are treating the Grand as it should be!!	No
10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p>	No

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10/04/2022	I would love to see this project done!!! Having the rapids back would definitely bring me downtown more, it would be so cool to be able to use the river more and bring back the namesake rapids.	No
10/04/2022	I would love to see improved access to this amazing natural resource by putting the rapids back in Grand Rapids!	No
10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p>	No

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10/04/2022	<p>I fully support the GR Whitewater project. I feel it will enhance our great city and will attract outdoor enthusiasts.</p> <p>Please proceed!</p>	No
10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p>	No



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10/04/2022	Please approve full construction of the rapids in downtown grand rapids as well as all the ancillary projects that require permits along the river that support this wonderful feature.	No
10/04/2022	I very strongly support the plans and development of our Grand River! I am a native Grand Rapiidian.	No

10/04/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</li> <li>-The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</li> <li>-2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</li> <li>-Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</li> </ul> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
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10/03/2022	<p>In 1984, when my family and I moved to Grand Rapids, the Grand River and its surroundings were not very appealing. Since then there has been much work done, and the river banks have been cleaned up and are now a showplace. I realized this, when this past week my sister and a friend visited from St. Louis, Mo., to attend ArtPrize. They were really taken by the Grand River surroundings, and commented to each other how they wish something like that would be done in St. Louis, along the Mississippi River.</p>	No

	Several years ago I read about the kayakers who were starting a push to restore the actual original footprint of the Grand River by having the dams removed and the original river bed recreated. And now this project is up for your approval. Seldom is there an opportunity to make such a remarkable and enduring change to our environment and indeed, to history itself. I understand that all legal, environmental, recreational, and social barriers and restrictions have been addressed. And I am urging you to approve this remarkable project. It will make us proud.	
10/03/2022	I'm not a bonafide "water guardian" but I do cherish clean water in Michigan. Part of that is picking up street litter that ends up in the Grand River. Part is kayaking on the Grand and its feeder rivers, too. The concept plans to Restore the Rapids makes sense. Since industrial uses around the time of damming the river with low-head dams is no longer with us, it makes sense to put the river back in working order as naturally functioning before intervention. Good for creatures of land, water, and air, as well as the bottom of the food chain. Good for kids to grow up in love with the clean water. Good for kayakers, too.	kayak2022oct2grandriver-.jpg
10/03/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</li> <li>-8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</li> <li>-The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</li> </ul>	No

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10/03/2022	<p>Hello-</p> <p>I would strongly recommend you approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). I have been following this project since it was first conceived many years ago and firmly believe that this project will help our community in numerous ways, as laid out in the original proposal.</p>	No
10/03/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I am a long-time Grand Rapids resident and I have been following the freeing of Grand Rapids' rapids for years.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering these important benefits.</p> <p>This project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the river's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions. Further, this project has embedded equity and inclusion into all river revitalization efforts and provides significant educational opportunities for young people in the fields of math, science, engineering, environmental resources management, public health/policy and more. Through extensive public input, the city of Grand Rapids has ensured that this project will benefit not only our river, but all residents who want more recreational opportunities in the Grand River.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development, and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No

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	<p>impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration</p>	
10/03/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>My name is George Aquino, Vice President/Managing Director of AHC Hospitality. AHC Hospitality operates 6 hotel properties (1,547 rooms) and 18 food &amp; beverage outlets in downtown Grand Rapids. Three of these hotels and our 500 surface parking spots on the corner of Fulton and Market streets sit on the banks of the Grand River. I am also a resident of the district.</p> <p>I am expressing my support for granting the permit for the PROJECT GRAND RIVER-GRAND RAPIDS (HVN-A018-7X9N3). The economic impact of this project on the city's entertainment and tourism sectors cannot be underestimated. The City of Grand Rapids, along with the Downtown Development Authority, Grand Action, Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc., and Experience Grand Rapids have done a phenomenal job of designating our downtown as a vibrant area for entertainment, hospitality and a hub for the arts, medical science and culture. But the one missing piece of the puzzle is our inability to capitalize on our number one natural asset - our Grand River. We need to do everything we can to activate our river to complete our vision for our beloved city.</p> <p>Cities like San Antonio, Austin and Denver have made their river districts the primary focal point for promoting tourism and group business to their downtowns. The State of Michigan, especially our river cities like Grand Rapids, should do the same. We Michiganders are proud of our Great Lakes. Promoting the social and economic attributes of our other waterways are just as critical.</p>	No



	Grand Rapids has done an amazing job of highlighting the "Grand." Now is the time to focus on bringing back the "Rapids" in our name.	
10/03/2022	I would like to speak in strong favor of this project. The economic and recreational benefits, paired with the improved natural habitat created by the project, make moving forward with this proposal the obvious choice.	No
10/02/2022	See Attached	NWF support of Grand Rapids Restoration 10_2022.pdf
10/01/2022	No action is too small!	No
10/01/2022	Excited for this project and all it will do.	No
09/30/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p>	No

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09/30/2022	would be great if you removed this and all dams and man made structures along all the rivers. dont bother with spending our tax dollars to stop what's already in the lake from going upstream.	No
09/30/2022	As a resident of Grand Rapids, I am in full support of this project. Reversing the manmade "customization" in the Grand River while at the same time creating an inspirational and unique space in our great city is a win-win scenario.	No
09/30/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No

09/29/2022	<p>I think the dam should stay, the 6th street dam is a fishing destination that attracts people from across the nation who come here and pay for out of state fishing licenses and fishing licenses. Not to mention me and all the other people who fish by boat at the dam. We buy boats specifically designed to navigate the shallow water and rapids, pay to register them every 3 years and have to have a boaters safety certificate. Not to mention removing the dam will allow further migration of the sea lamprey and other invasive species as well as wash an extreme amounts of sediment downstream. I being a grand rapids citizen do not support removing the dam.</p>	No
09/29/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

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09/29/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I have been looking forward to the realization of this dream for a long time</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

	<p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
09/29/2022	<p>In 1838, a visitor to the early settlement of Grand Rapids, a man named Frank Little, remarked about the "incessant, impressive roar of the rapids" in the young city.</p> <p>Like so many places in Earth, however, humankind altered the ecosystem substantially, building dams and seawalls, and channeling water from what were magnificent wetlands to the Grand River.</p> <p>It is physically impossible to go all the way back to what nature first created. However, it is possible to restore some of the functionality of the Grand River system in Grand Rapids and to improve public access and recreational opportunity. We can't recreate what nature created over the millennia, but we can make things better.</p>	No

	<p>All across Michigan, communities are reconnecting to their waters. In the UP, Marquette and Houghton are revitalizing their waterfronts. In Alpena, the establishment of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary has brought increased economic activity and excitement to the community. In Traverse City, the removal of dams along the Boardman River has restored parts of the ecological system. And, in Detroit, the fabulous work of the Detroit Riverfront has transformed Michigan's largest city.</p> <p>Michiganders have long been intimately connected to the waters of our state. Water has defined Michigan, written our history, and soothed our souls.</p> <p>Beginning more than a decade ago, leaders in Grand Rapids had a vision to reconnect that city to the state's longest river. That vision has required ten years of research, meetings, modifications, studies and commitments by federal, state and local agencies, and the private sector.</p> <p>The current design for the downstream portion of the Whitewater project will improve public safety, provide improved public access, protect endangered mussels, and provide improved passage for fish.</p> <p>I strongly urge approval.</p> <p>It is time for Grand Rapids to reclaim its namesake, and for the "incessant, impressive roar of the rapids to return to West Michigan.</p>	
09/29/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary</p>	<p>river1.jpgriver3.jpgriver 2.jpg</p>



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09/29/2022	<p>We live downtown on the banks of the Grand, and strongly support the restoration of the rapids. I will be out there, and I have no doubt my son and grandchildren would be visiting.</p> <p>Suggestions:</p> <p>Slalom training gates as seen here on the Madawaska <a href="https://www.360cities.net/image/chalet-rapids-middle-madawaska">https://www.360cities.net/image/chalet-rapids-middle-madawaska</a>. Gates could easily be hung under the I-196 bridges, and pushed aside when out of season. Unfortunately, the picture does not show how the gates start up in substantial rapids and continue into calm water providing training opportunity for all levels.</p> <p>At one point I heard talk of creating refreshment opportunities right on the river. Alcohol anywhere near rapids is an exceedingly bad idea.</p> <p>Decent changing facilities would be very positive in attracting boaters. I don't know how it would work, but perhaps there would be some way to provide shower facilities for street people.</p>	No
09/29/2022	<p>First and foremost , I would like to say how very much I appreciate the Grand River and it's beauty as it strolls through our downtown environment. it is graced with trails , parks, museums, restaurants, and many scheduled events. it also has access points and great opportunities for boaters , fishing , and yes KAYAKING Too ! WHO really could ask for more . What we have is currently a Treasure not to be taken lightly and I'm sure most would agree. YET , there are those who think the Grand River can be improved for whatever rea\$on. There are also claims this undertaking is privately funded at no cost to the taxpayers. HA HA . Then why is EGLE even involved ? Is it EGLE's duty just to rubber stamp someone's monumental scheme for OUR environment without guidance ,counsel, or inspections ? and what about the Corp of Engineers and their implementations and processes ??? Are these agencies and their duties</p>	No

	free to to the general public also ? What if (God Forbid) something goes wrong ? I truly love what we HAVE , and believe the real cost and possible consequences of this pipedream have'nt been thoroughly considered. PS : I hear we have some Sturgeon in there now ! !	
09/29/2022	This is such an exciting time! I am thrilled the dams will be removed. It will really boost habitat in the Grand River. Growing up in Grand Rapids I was always told stories about how polluted the river was. I am elated to restore the rapids and show people what a wonderful resource the river really is. No longer will people talk about how poor the water quality is, once the rapids are back they will finally see its beauty. I am also excited to have the river be a focal point of the city and no longer a barrier.	No
09/28/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

	development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
09/28/2022	As a lifelong Michigander, I fully support any project that aims to improve our states rivers and lakes. The project in question will undoubtedly have positive impacts on our economy and ecosystem. Beautifying our river is long overdue and will help Grand Rapids continue its trend of being a great place to live and visit.	No
09/28/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No

09/28/2022	As members of the community living close to the Grand River, between Bridge and Fulton Streets, we strongly support this proposal and urge your acceptance.	No
09/28/2022	I am in full support of the Grand Rapids WhiteWater project. This project will enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. Let's make it happen!	No
09/28/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</li> <li>- The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</li> <li>- 2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</li> <li>- Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</li> </ul> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

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09/28/2022	<p>This is so important to our community not only for the economic impact but for education as well. This is a project so unique to our community that it would be a missed opportunity not to support and greenlight it. It would truly be a shame to not to be able to restore a river so old and that contains so much history just because of politics and the permitting process and money.</p>	No

09/28/2022	<p>I've been looking forward to seeing the grand river being restored to the rapids ever since I heard about it.</p> <p>It would be a great recreational draw for our city.</p>	No
09/27/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
09/27/2022	<p>I support the permit request for work related to the Lower Reach submitted by the Grand Rapids Whitewater Irganization.</p>	No

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09/27/2022	. restoration Rapids Grand the support strongly I	No
09/27/2022	Very supportive over the Grand Rapids White Water project! This would be an exciting addition to our community.	No

09/27/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
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09/27/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I ask that you please approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). Allowing this project to move forward will not only provide for a more accessible and vibrant Grand River in downtown Grand Rapids, but even more importantly will help restore a part of the Grand River to a healthier and more balanced ecosystem. As someone that is an advocate of both protecting Michigan's natural resources and restoring natural areas, I strongly believe the Grand Rapids WhiteWater project will have a positive impact on both the environment and the community for generations, and the sooner the restoration work is completed, the sooner we can all enjoy the many benefits of it. I ask that this permit be approved in the most reasonably expeditious manner possible.</p>	No
09/27/2022	<p>Grand Rapids should embrace the name and the river of its namesake. The geographic position is unique and presents opportunities to offer people in the community and visitors something for</p>	No

	<p>everyone to enjoy and be proud of that are not currently being utilized. There are MANY things that could be improved, including the rapids restoration that "looks grand". ALSO more boat access above and below the rapids, accessible all the way from downtown Grand Rapids to lake Michigan which would allow for jet skis, personal boats, marinas, steamboats, cruises, fishing boats, and even commercial boats (again). What other inland city has that kind of opportunity? Also I would like to see MORE walk, bike, small motor ways along BOTH sides of the river throughout the entire city limits and how about utilizing Jackson Island as a small park? Kent trails, Millennium Park, Riverside Park and everywhere in between should have very easy access with many options to connect. One other thing that would help the community pride part and thats dressing up the existing bridges, there are many opportunities to add aesthetics, lighting, and new bridge design such as 196 for people to be proud of and photogenic for tourists to remember GR by.</p>	
09/27/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p>	No

	<p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
09/27/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to deny the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), This project is a needless expenditure of resources that can only benefit a few people at the expense of others. Based on the promotional efforts to 'sell' this project I can only assume that a group managed by the select few that will benefit from the project are responsible.</p> <p>Please do not approve this project.</p>	No
09/27/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p>	No

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09/26/2022	<p>For crying out loud, let Grand Rapids have rapids on the Grand River! The time is now!</p> <p>Dear Director Clark and crew!</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

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09/26/2022	I am writing to voice my support for the Grand Rapids Whitewater Project. I feel it is a tremendous effort to bring back a section of the Grand River to more closely resemble its pre-settlement state. I know that EGLE will ensure that the proper environmental protections are in place, protecting existing natural resources as much as possible. I look forward to the enhanced recreational opportunities and feel that the project could provide a tremendous boost in tourism for downtown Grand Rapids.	No
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09/26/2022	I'm totally against changing the Grand River. We don't need kyaks there. Leave the dams where they are.	No
09/26/2022	Where can we access the reports in both short term and long-term fishing habitat	No
09/26/2022		Steelcase Foundation_letter of Support-9.26.2022.pdf
09/26/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

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09/26/2022	I support the plan to re establish the rapids in the Grand	No
09/26/2022	See attached letter.	Whitewater ltr 260922.pdf
09/26/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3),</p>	No
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09/26/2022	I support the Grand River Restoration Project in Grand Rapids Michigan.	No
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09/26/2022	All for it	No
09/26/2022	We would love to see Grand Rapids really be the home of Rapids....	No
09/26/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions. 8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities. The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams. 2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions. Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions.</p>	No

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09/26/2022	My Page family ancestors arrived here in 1836. I'm sure they agree with us in our support of restoring the Grand River to its original condition. Thank you to all who are involved in this important project.	No
09/26/2022	Great project for the Communnity	No
09/26/2022	I can't wait to see the completion of this project. It's a wonderful!	No
09/26/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,	No

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09/26/2022	I am 100% in favor of restoring our rapids and in revitalizing our currently-underutilized riverfront spaces!!	No
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09/26/2022	<p>I support the Grand river restore of the rapids. I would love to enjoy the river and spend more time along it. At this rate I'll be too old to kayak it, this has been taking FOREVER.</p>	No
09/26/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p>	No

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09/25/2022	As a resident of Kent County I fully support the White Water Project. As an avid kayaker and outdoor enthusiast this White Water Project would put Grand Rapids on the map as a water wonderland city.	No
09/25/2022	I strongly support GRWW and their mission to return the Grand River to it's natural glory and support the surrounding neighborhoods.	No
09/25/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents</p>	No

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09/25/2022	<p>The Grand Rapids Whitewater project has a lot of benefits from my perspective. The river used to have rapids that allowed fish and natural wildlife to navigate more freely, and represented the natural state of the area. By restoring the rapids, I believe there will be many benefits to the West Michigan economy, create more natural beauty in the downtown area, and improve river function for fish and wildlife. This project, done safely and within the guidelines required, to restore the rapids is a good opportunity for the region to get back to what made the "Grand Rapids" area great in the first place.</p>	No
09/25/2022	<p>I support the EAGLE permit approval for the GR Whitewater project. I am on the Board of the GR Public Museum and the Whitewater folks have been great partners. We have done much joint planning. The Museum will be doing sue river front improvements as we invest in an expanded Museum. These permits will greatly expand the vitality and beauty of the Grand River and do much to expand recreational use of the River. It will also aid in the economic development of downtown Grand Rapids. This proposed project is a win win for the State of Michigan, the City of Grand Rapids,Kent County and Western Michigan. The Whitewater project has the full support of the community. Please approve it expeditiously.</p>	No
09/25/2022	<p>I support this project.</p>	No



09/25/2022		Grand Rapids letter of support De Kock 2022-0925.pdf
09/25/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
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09/25/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>As a kayaker and neighborhood resident of the area (Belknap), I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

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09/24/2022	I fully endorse this project in that it will go a long way in terms of bringing new recreational opportunities and strong economic growth to the Western Michigan area, and in addition will do much to strengthen the downtown businesses of Grand Rapids.	No
09/24/2022	As the COO of BAMF Health, located near the Grand Rapids White Water Project, I am excited to offer my full support and endorsement. This will be a wonderful, health-focused benefit for all the citizens of Grand Rapids and a destination for all the citizens of Michigan. It will also be one more tool to help attract and retain talent in West Michigan. I urge EGLE to fully support his project!	No
09/24/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I am writing to encourage you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). The Grand Rapids WhiteWater project has been years in the making with an extraordinary level of public input, scientific research, and careful planning. The potential for revitalizing the river corridor through downtown Grand Rapids is exciting. I believe the restoration of our namesake rapids will be a major win for our city!</p>	No
09/24/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>This is an amazing project worthy of your support.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

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09/23/2022	<p>SUPPORT</p> <p>BUILD EQUITY</p> <p>REDUCE CARBON</p> <p>USE THE WIND FROM THE RAPIDS TO PRODUCE ENERGY</p>	No
09/23/2022	<p>Restoring the rapids on the grand river is the most important development in Grand Rapids since the onset of the medical miracle mile on Michigan Ave. it will help ensure that Grand Rapids will be known as a really cool and forward thinking community.</p> <p>It will have a positive effect on recreation on the river, and business development along the river. It will bring white water competition to Grand Rapids. It will offer fantastic opportunities for people to walk along the river and marvel at what has been done.</p> <p>As a long time member of Michigan Trout Unlimited, I see no downside to the fabulous fishery on the Grand River.</p> <p>Going back to the initial meeting at West middle school which must be way more than a decade ago, I supported the project over options like creating gardens or bike paths. Both of those are very important but pale in comparison to what restoration of the Rapids will accomplish.</p>	No



	<p>Please make sure there is adequate access along the river for bicycles. Maybe it could be connected to the Frederick Meyer trail starting at Riverside Park.</p> <p>Please let me know if I can be of any assistance in seeing that this plan be implemented as soon as possible.</p>	
09/23/2022	This is a significant development for Grand Rapids that will not only restore the Grand River but provide a major attraction for Michigan	No
09/23/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

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09/23/2022	This project would provide an amazing opportunity for generations of people to engage with paddlesports, their community, and the city of Grand Rapids. If this park had existed when I started paddling it would have changed so many lives, including my kids. Let's do this!	No
09/23/2022	I strongly support GR White Water	No
09/23/2022	Cant wait to see the rapids back in "Grand Rapids", would love to see the soccer stadium too! Go GR!	No
09/23/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

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09/23/2022	This is going to be really important for the future of our community.	No
09/23/2022		20220605_155008_HD R.jpg
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09/23/2022	The positive impact this would have throughout our community is priceless. Make it happen!	No
09/23/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.  8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities  The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams  2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions  Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions  Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No

	development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
09/23/2022	My great grandparents settled at Bruce's Bayou on the Grand River near Nunica in the 1800's, so maybe it's in my blood. We are blessed to call West Michigan home, and fortunate to have this magnificent waterway at the heart of our lives. I wholeheartedly support Grand Rapids Whitewater and their continuing efforts to let this magnificent river to run free.	No
09/23/2022	Please move the Whitewater project forward. It is a catalytic, transformational project that will help bring increased opportunity for our community. From economic development to quality of life, to protecting natural assets and creating more access, this an exciting project with benefits that will last for generations. Thank you for your consideration.	No
09/23/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p>	No

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09/23/2022	This project will enhance Grand Rapids in so many ways. Our community needs this recreational destination.	No
09/23/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No

09/23/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan. The design partners for this project have worked closely with state and federal regulatory staff, including EGLE staff, for many years to ensure the project balances many technically challenging, ecologically significant constraints while still delivering these important benefits.</p> <p>1. The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the river's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>2. The project will increase fish passage potential for migratory and small-bodied fish species, including mussel host species, once the low-head dams are demolished and the flow diversity is enhanced with the addition of natural rock and boulders back into the river.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development, and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
09/22/2022	I am thrilled to see the White Water moving to their next step to bring our Grand River's rapids back to Grand Rapids! I hope your team decide to award the grant to this project to help their team get to their next step to this goal.	No
09/22/2022		Grand River Restoration letter.docx
09/22/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p>	No

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09/22/2022	I am in full support of the GR whitewater project.	No
09/22/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary</p>	No

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09/21/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3).</p> <p>This project will restore the river to its natural state and assure both recreational and environmental benefits.</p> <p>The project can engage our community in understanding the EGLE mission and will lead to its members engaging with you to support its goals.</p> <p>Thank you for your efforts.</p>	No
09/21/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary</p>	No

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09/21/2022	This project is amazing. I fully support the project.	No
09/21/2022	I am very excited to see Grand Rapids WhiteWater complete their mission--it is indescribably important to preserve the unique characteristics of the Grand River and restore opportunities for recreation.	No
09/21/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p>	No



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09/21/2022	<p>I fully support Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3)</p> <p>I hope you all will too!</p>	No
09/21/2022	<p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p>	No

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09/21/2022	<p>This project is going to a milestone for the city of Grand Rapids. It will benefit everything from the local ecology to tourism and city vibe. This massive undertaking will truly make the city home of the Grand Rapids!</p> <p>I have been impressed by the efforts to both restore the rapids AND keep invasive species out of upstream habitats. The sound of rushing water will make downtown feel even more alive. It will attract visitors and area residents to visit downtown for longer and support the businesses there.</p>	No
09/21/2022	<p>I have been a life-long resident of Grand Rapids. I have seen this once-sleepy town blossom into a vibrant and active community in the last two decades. I have always wondered why we had so little access to such a clean and wide body of water (Grand River). As a lover of the outdoors, nature, and boating, I am looking forward to the day that we can have fun on this river. It is such a wonderful asset to the community. I am not a biologist, but I read that it is also a good move for the local eco-system. I am all for that as well.</p>	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p>	No

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09/20/2022	<p>Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I write in enthusiastic support of the pending permit for Grand Rapids' river project (HNV-A018-7X9N3). While I write from California, I do so wearing two relevant hats.</p> <p>First, I recently spent about a decade advocating for investment and pursuing permits for restoration and improvements as part of the revitalization of the Los Angeles River. As the former board chair of RiverLA, and point for in-channel projects, I'm keenly aware of the permitting gauntlet in getting these projects done. Applicant has diligently pursued this exciting permit for years, and I encourage you to approve it and allow them to lead a renaissance along the Grand River. Applicant is part of a large coalition of stakeholders focused on a multi-benefit investment into an iconic Michigan waterway.</p> <p>Second, I currently advise on the drafting of a "river equity framework" associated with anticipated investments in the Grand River corridor. The approval of this in-channel permit will catalyze a series of on-shore investments that can bring significant and wide-spread benefit to the residents of Western Michigan. Our framework anticipates benefits in river access, equitable economic development, environmental resiliency, and river corridor planning that will open up Grand River's bounty to all local residents across the socioeconomic spectrum. We are eager to create a River for All in Grand Rapids.</p> <p>I can appreciate all the technical and administrative hurdles in issuing this permit (I've travelled this path myself!). But I believe that the time has come to approve project HNV-A018-7X9N3 and unleash the goodwill and potential of the Grand Rapids community for the benefit of all stakeholders, not least of which is the Grand River itself and the ecosystem and habitat it supports.</p>	No

09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
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	Thank you for your consideration.	
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I am writing to ask that you approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>Approving the permit application will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
09/20/2022	As someone born and raised in Grand Rapids, I've often looked down at the river and wondered what made the relatively calm water look like "Grand Rapids" to those who named the city, especially especially compared to some other rivers in the state with picturesque white-water rapids. I knew that settlers to the area restricted the flow of the river using Indigenous cemeteries, but I had no idea that they'd terraformed it to the extent that they completely suppressed the rapids that the city was named for. I'd love to be able to sit at Ah-Naab-Awen or walk the Blue Bridge and see that there are truly grand rapids in the river again.	No
09/20/2022	I enthusiastically support the project to restore the rapids in the Grand River. As a long time supporter of downtown Grand Rapids, I see a multitude of benefits through increased recreational opportunities, support of economic development, and public access to a beautiful river. For many years, people	No

	involved in city life lamented the fact that we had turned our back on the river. Well, no more. Restoring the rapids will draw people to the river, locals and visitors alike, and truly foster a river for all.	
09/20/2022	My name is Ivan Diaz and I am the current Democratic nominee for Kent County Commissioner in District 20. I am writing in strong support of returning the rapids to the Grand River contingent on receiving positive or neutral environmental impact reports from agencies responsible for conducting reviews. I think this idea would overall be a positive for the community and would be a positive way for Grand Rapids to distinguish itself.	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>Please approve the Project Grand River-Grand Rapids permit.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>My family and I would really like to see the Grand River restored to its natural glory! Therefore, I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

09/20/2022	Permits for the Grand River restoration have been studied - COVID delayed - and the future of this water way is ready to add to the tremendous success, growth and entertainment value of the City, it's near neighborhoods, West Mi and the tourist economy. Please expedite going forward.	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
09/20/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,	No

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09/20/2022	<p>Hi my name is Larry Bauer I live on the grand river I work across the street from the grand river on Monroe Street we boat on the river I fly and land of Float Plane on the river .we are 's so exciting to see the new changes coming to the river it's just a fun chunk of water in Michigan please get started . I also I am excited to see a bike trail connecting downtown to the white pine trail Again please get started I don't want to be an old man before it's done</p>	No
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09/20/2022	I am so excited for this project to begin. It will change the river vibe so much for the better and people will be drawn from near and far. Lets get started, I am ready!	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No

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09/20/2022	My wife and I are 100% in support of restoring the rapids on the Grand River.	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

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09/20/2022	This would be wonderful for Grand Rapids!!!!	No
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09/20/2022	<p>I support approval of the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3). However, the priority should be the health of the river, increased sturgeon habitat, and widening of the river channel through Grand Rapids. Yes, that means removing buildings along the river and replacing them with green space.</p>	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p>	No

	<p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>PS, Take out the whole dam when the time comes, not just half.</p>	
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>As a previous employee of the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds (LGROW), I have had the opportunity to watch this project develop. I know that so much work has gone into this and I am so happy at the strides the GRWW team has made to make all stakeholders voices heard.</p> <p>Most importantly, I think the increase in river access for the residents of Grand Rapids will make a great difference in the community and the youth. Many youth in Grand Rapids have never step foot in a river, despite being next to the longest river in Michigan! The proposed access sites this project has will be so great for the youth, residents, and for the City itself.</p> <p>I strongly support this project.</p>	No
09/20/2022	<p>Been following this project from the start. While it's been a long journey, I respect the approach taken by GRWW to thoroughly study and adapt their original vision of bringing WW kayaking to GR. In the end, It appears the restoration will provide a safer, more usable waterway for ALL paddlers and anglers, as well as a healthier ecosystem for the aquatic species who live throughout the watershed. Let's get the in-river work started!</p>	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No



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09/20/2022	Please open the Grand River up by removing the 6th street dam and following smaller dams. This really would be a transformation back to the initial state of the river and what truly made Grand Rapids, GRAND! Not only would it be more natural, but it would promote recreation that can be done by families through walking the river front, kayaking, and fishing.	No
09/20/2022	Full support for what the GRWW team is doing and excited to see the results! Turning the Grand into a recreational river through downtown is a fantastic idea.	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

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09/20/2022	<p>In strong support of making downtown a pleasant place to go. Clean water and accessible attractions will make this project a win for the community with the proper care that the managers are taking. This project is a keystone to all the other projects that seem to be lining up around our central and long neglected feature of the Grand River.</p>	No
09/20/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

	<p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
09/20/2022	For the sake of restoring the Grand River's natural habitats and installing new barriers to keep out invasive species, we need this proposal. It will be the greatest project in Grand Rapids history when it's done.	No
09/19/2022	I support the Grand River initiative. It will be a catalyst for growth for all of West MI.	No
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>When I moved from out of state to Grand Rapids, my plan was to stay for 5 years. Well, I am 20 years past my deadline. I have watched West Michigan change, mostly for the better, in these years. I look forward to seeing where the city goes from here. I know about the project at hand because of my work as the volunteer manager at the GRPM. I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

	<p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
09/19/2022	<p>Hello , I'm writing in regards to the licensing for Grand Rapids White Water . I would like you to know that I support their effort to restore the rapids to the river and would love to see this project begin the construction phase as soon as possible . I am one of many local whitewater paddlers who would love to enjoy the river .</p>	No
09/19/2022	Restore the Grand river, enhance the recreation opportunities available to citizens	No
09/19/2022	<p>Statement of Support</p> <p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p>	No

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09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>As a disabled sportsman and outdoor enthusiast I very much look forward to the possibility of the Grand River white water project moving forward. The improved recreational access would be much appreciated and utilized by my family, friends, and I.</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p>	No

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09/19/2022	This project is awesome, I'm really hopeful for what it can do for the city of grand rapids	No
09/19/2022	<p>I lived in GR for 3 years and still do work there. When I first arrived, I was disappointed at the state of the river due to its past neglect, and have always felt there is a huge amount of potential there.</p> <p>It currently feels like the city has its back turned to the river; there is little focus on enjoying it visually or using it for recreation. I believe that restoring the river to its original state would make it a central attraction of the city, and restore a great deal of pride for the people of Grand Rapids. In many other cities, their natural water features are their most cherished and used attractions, and I believe this would be similar.</p> <p>I realize this is a monumental undertaking, since it will require careful removal of debris and careful planning with regards to invasive species, but I believe it will be worth it for the millions of people who will live and visit Grand Rapids now and in the future.</p>	No
09/19/2022	We wholly support this project! I was born at Blodgett Hosp, raised in EGR. I left but chose to come back. Restoring the rapids would help make GR world class!	No
09/19/2022	<p>I wholeheartedly support these plans to begin the restoration of the rapids of the Grand River as a fisherman, avid kayaker, and university student. During my childhood in Grand Rapids I learned of how the rapids had once been destroyed and how there were no longer rapids in our city. However, I often dreamed of the reconstruction of this essential and defining element of our city as I recreated in the river.</p> <p>I have reviewed the plans here thoroughly, and I believe that they will adequately capture the spirit of what the rapids once must have been while simultaneously improving habitat for imperiled species like sturgeon.</p>	No
09/19/2022	I support the GR whitewater project	No
09/19/2022	I urge you not to approve this application. It will allow sea lampreys easier access to other rivers upstream from the 6th St dam, such as the Rogue River in Rockford, where I enjoy fishing. Right now, the only way a lamprey can get upstream from the dam is to attach to a salmon. After the dam is removed, many will swim right through the not 100% effective deterrents and simply swim upstream. I also find it humorous that it's claimed that removing this dam will improve fishing. It will destroy the	No

	salmon fishery at 6th St such as it is. The fish will obviously no longer congregate at the 6th St dam, and will simply continue upriver. Fishermen will no longer fish here either. Approve this application and destroy the fishery. If you have further questions feel free to contact me at the phone # provided. Rich Visser	
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
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09/19/2022	This plan will improve the city and I look forward to being able to use it for whitewater kayaking.	No
09/19/2022	. there down business and activity in increase the for wait Can't.GR in initiative whitewater the support Definitely	No
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p>	No

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09/19/2022	We love to visit Grand Rapids as our state's most beautiful - actually righteous- city! We are thrilled to think of all urban children going to the river to experience safely water sports in our water wonderland. This is the right thing to do here with the resources-- sunset and general beauty to be shared by more people. Thank you.	No
09/19/2022	Please get this project approved already! Construction should have started years ago. It will be an incredible asset to Grand Rapids.	No
09/19/2022	As a resident of Grand Rapids, I support the Grand Rapids Whitewater project. I listened to a presentation about this project at my church, and I feel that it will benefit our community. The project team has done a great deal of research and I feel their plan will benefit the river ecosystem and also provide positive recreational opportunities for our community.	No
09/19/2022	I think this will be a fantastic development for the city of Grand Rapids. Thank you for the opportunity to comment!	No
09/19/2022	Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,	No

	<p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
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09/19/2022	Please support this initiative. It goes much beyond just supplying some kayaking options. Not only will it improve habitats for fishes, etc but it will offer increased recreational options to the region.	No
09/19/2022	Fully support this initiative. Thank you. Bring back the rapids!	No
09/19/2022	I fully support the Restore the Rapids, Grand River Whitewater project including the initial phase related to the Lower Reach (Bridge Street to Fulton Street) portion of the project.	No
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p>	No

	<p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access, and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem with increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities. Safety will be improved by removing four existing low-head dams. And fish passage will be improved.</p>	No

	<p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I am copy-pasting the following statement because I fully agree with everything contained therein:</p> <p>Please approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No

09/19/2022	I am in full support of this project and believe it would be a great economic driver for the City of Grand Rapids.	No
09/19/2022	I strongly support restoration of the rapids and free flowing river. It will be a big boost to the ecosystem and recreational opportunities for many people both native to the area as well as travelers. Unlimited potential for both. Thanks for your consideration.	No
09/19/2022	I am writing in support of the work being done on the river in Grand Rapids. I appreciate anything that improves fish habitat And restores natural flows back the the river. I expect that this will also make the river more of a feature for the city and bring in business.	No
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic</p>	No



	development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.	
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
09/19/2022	Definitely in favor of what we are doing to restore the Rapids in the Grand River, along with the related projects and process to carry this out. Personally, I am interested in helping and would appreciate a call from Steve Heacock. Please pass my name along. Steve and I are well acquainted. Thank you.	No

09/19/2022	I fully support this permit application and request by Grand Rapids Whitewater. The work they are doing to restore the Grand River is incredible and is much needed. Restoring the Grand River comes with numerous benefits; I am thoroughly excited to see this project come to fruition!	No
09/19/2022	I wholeheartedly support the Grand Rapids WhiteWater Initiative. I believe that it will enhance the quality of life for the people of Grand Rapids and the ecological status of the Grand River river system.	No
09/19/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3), which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents have worked closely with state and federal agencies to identify, understand, evaluate and address each constraint. The result is a holistic design that significantly improves existing river conditions. Temporary impacts are minimized as much as reasonably possible and no permanent, adverse impacts are anticipated.</p> <p>The project will safely provide greater public access to the Grand River and enhance the River's ecosystem when compared to existing conditions.</p> <p>8.7 acres of increased flow diversity, resulting in improved aquatic habitat and enhanced recreational opportunities</p> <p>The removal of safety risks caused by the four existing low-head dams</p> <p>2.9 acres of preferred mussel habitat area, a designed increase of 73% from current conditions</p> <p>Improved fish passage hydraulics over existing conditions</p> <p>Approving the permit application for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids (HNV-A018-7X9N3) will create many environmental, recreational and safety benefits that will drive opportunities for nearby economic development and aligns with the Pure Michigan campaign goals to promote the diversity of unique places and waterways that make Michigan so special. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	No
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09/16/2022	<p>Dear Director Clark and EGLE staff,</p> <p>I strongly urge you to approve the permit for Project Grand River-Grand Rapids, which would enhance the quality of the Grand River ecosystem while providing greater safety, access and recreational opportunities to the citizens of Michigan.</p> <p>This project, long misunderstood to be only of benefit for whitewater rafters, has evolved its design to be a healthier river ecosystem that will not increase flood risk while providing recreational and economic benefits to the City of Grand Rapids and surrounding region.</p> <p>The project team has spent years developing a design that balances the goals of the project with the constraints of constructing in a heavily urbanized and regulated reach of the river. Project proponents</p>	No

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